

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

COMMEMORATING MS. ARLENA CHRISTIAN-BROWN ON THE OCCASION OF HER 92ND BIRTHDAY

HON. RODNEY ALEXANDER

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 19, 2009

Mr. ALEXANDER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate Ms. Arlena Christian-Brown on the occasion of her 92nd birthday.

Ms. Christian-Brown was born on July 11, 1917, in Bonita, LA, to West and Classie Christian. She is the second of 19 children, and the oldest daughter living today.

Currently, Ms. Christian-Brown is a resident of Jones, Louisiana and together with her late beloved husband, Ross Brown, raised eight children.

Ms. Christian-Brown has been an active member of her community, attending and participating in church throughout her life. Over the years, Ms. Christian has served as an usher, choir member and a mother on the motherboard.

As her friends and family prepare to join together on July 11 to celebrate this exciting birthday, Ms. Christian-Brown continues to exemplify how dedication, hard-work, patience and a strong faith can make a difference in her community. She has instilled fairness, honesty and religious conviction in her children and grandchildren.

Today, Ms. Christian-Brown is the proud grandmother of 19 grandchildren, 13 great-grandchildren (one deceased) and one great-great-grandchild.

I ask my colleagues to join me in wishing Ms. Christian-Brown a very happy 92nd birthday.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. J. GRESHAM BARRETT

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 19, 2009

Mr. BARRETT of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, pursuant to the Republican Leadership standards on earmarks, I am submitting the following information regarding earmarks I received as part of the House passed version of H.R. 2847.

Requesting Member: Congressman J. GRESHAM BARRETT

Bill Number: H.R. 2847

Provision: Title I, International Trade Administration

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Clemson University

Address of Requesting Entity: 201 Sikes Hall, Clemson, SC 29634

Description of Request: The purpose of this appropriation is to provide \$350,000 to the National Textile Center at Clemson University. These funds will be used to support research and development, undergraduate and grad-

uate education, and technology transfer at Clemson University in the area of polymers, fibers, and textiles research. Activities carried out with these funds will include research projects with direct military implications, as well as training of students, both of which support industry in the United States. I certify that neither I nor my spouse has any financial interest in this project.

RECOGNIZING THE 50TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY OF BLUFORD AND BETTY WARD

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 19, 2009

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Madam Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, it is an honor for me to rise today in recognition of Bluford and Betty Ward on the occasion of their 50th wedding anniversary.

Bluford Ward and Betty Crutchfield met growing up in the small farming community of Allentown, Florida. The two met while in school at Allentown School, now known as Central High School, and their friendship grew into something more over the years. Bluford and Mrs. Betty married on June 20, 1959 at Calvary Baptist Church, right down the road from where they grew up.

Bluford and Betty Ward live the American dream. They began their life together in Allentown where they live to this day. Bluford and Betty are the proud parents of three children—Sherry, Terry, and Jennifer—and four grandchildren. I am honored to call Bluford and Mrs. Betty my friends.

Madam Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, I am proud to recognize Mr. and Mrs. Ward on their 50th wedding anniversary. They are truly an outstanding family from the First District of Florida.

ONE RIOT, ONE RANGER

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 18, 2009

Mr. POE of Texas. About 100 years ago, there was a fight brewing in Dallas. Back then there was a different type of 9–1–1. When you needed to bring in the big guns, you knew who to call. So the Dallas mayor made his urgent plea for help and was waiting anxiously for the Calvary to ride into town, so to speak. As Captain Bill McDonald stepped off the train, the mayor was elated, but wondered out loud where the rest of 'em were? "Hell! ain't I enough? There's only one prize-fight!" Those words have become synonymous with the Texas Rangers: One Riot, One Ranger.

This past weekend I had the honor and privilege to speak to over 300 Texas Rangers

in Waco, Texas. I was like a kid in a candy shop! Some were not active Rangers anymore, but don't think that made any real difference in their appearance or demeanor. Just like a Marine; once a Ranger, always a Ranger. There is no "ex-Ranger."

As I mingled through the sea of starched shirts, jeans and cowboy hats, I thought I had died and gone to Heaven. You can always spot a Ranger. Long, lean and mean with a silver star made out of a Mexican silver dollar and six guns. It was like I was talking to Gus McCray and Woodrow Call of Lonesome Dove. The legends of the greatest law enforcement agency ever known were alive and well. And me, a mere U.S. Congressman, was getting to hang out with them!

The Texas Rangers can be traced back to the earliest days of Texas history, technically long before we were Texas. They are the oldest law enforcement organization on the North American continent with statewide jurisdiction. Stephen F. Austin got a few men together to protect the early settlers from Indians in the early 1800s. They got their name from their primary duty—patrol the range and keep the peace. For over 200 years, their purpose hasn't really changed.

In 1835, at the beginning of the Texas Revolution, the Corps of Rangers was established; and in 1847, they officially became known as the Texas Rangers. Twenty-five men under the command of Silas M. Parker were designated to protect the frontier between the Brazos and the Trinity; ten men under Garrison Greenwood were assigned to the east side of the Trinity; and 25 men under D.B. Frazier to patrol between the Brazos and the Colorado. They did what even the U.S. Army could not do—protect the settlers from the Indians.

Through the years the Texas Rangers have increased and decreased in numbers and their charges have varied, but their duty has never wavered. During the Texas Revolution, while the Texians' focus was on defeating Santa Anna's army, the Rangers focused on protecting the settlements from Indians. During the Mexican-American War, they became known as the "Los Diablos Tejanos"—the Texas Devils, for their fierce protection of the frontier.

Their storied history can fill pages and pages; their duties and contributions are just too long to list. But, the famous words of Captain Bill McDonald have evolved into the Ranger creed and pretty much say it all: "No man in the wrong can stand up against a fellow that's in the right and keeps on a-comin'."

They have been the focus of legend, lore, radio shows, Hollywood movies and television dramas. One Ranger, and the outlaw who wronged him, even made their way to my courtroom. Back in 1988, the Lone Ranger flew into Houston Intercontinental Airport to speak at a charity for disabled kids. When he left town a baggage handler stole his luggage. (Yes, the real Lone Ranger; some people know him as the actor Clayton Moore, but believers know he is actually the Lone Ranger.)

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

Inside this bag were his twin ivory handled Colt .45s—might as well have been the Hope Diamond itself.

Well, when it came to sentencing I really had no choice in the matter. This was the Lone Ranger after all and he had been wronged. It was my duty as a Texan and a man of the law to punish this outlaw in the name of everything holy and sacred—600 hours shoveling manure at the Houston Police Department Mounted Patrol stables.

And through it all, I refused to reveal the true identity of the Lone Ranger. I allowed him to remain “masked” and wear his white hat in the court—even over the loud objections of the defense attorney. I was not about to go down in history as the man who un-masked the Lone Ranger!

These lawmen have always had a certain swagger; a certain something about them that made them Rangers. Another legendary Ranger, who lived up to his nickname, “Rip” (Rest in Peace) Ford said this about the men that served under him: “A large proportion . . . were unmarried. A few of them drank intoxicating liquors. Still, it was a company of sober and brave men. They knew their duty and they did it. While in a town they made no braggadocio demonstration. They did not gallop through the streets, shoot, and yell. They had a specie of moral discipline which developed moral courage. They did right because it was right.”

Whether they be fact or fiction, Texas Rangers are a special breed. But, would we really expect anything less from Texas? Nowadays they mainly work alone. They are the finest law enforcement agency in the world.

By the way, Ranger Captain Bill McDonald successfully stopped the Dallas Prize Fight Riot—by himself.

And that’s just the way it is.

HONORING THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF DR. RITA S. JONES

HON. JIM GERLACH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 19, 2009

Mr. GERLACH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Dr. Rita S. Jones who is retiring as superintendent of Great Valley School District in Chester County, Pennsylvania after faithfully serving more than 39 years as a dedicated teacher and outstanding administrator.

Dr. Jones started her distinguished career in a third-grade classroom in Johnstown, Ohio in 1971. She came to Pennsylvania in 1978 as assistant superintendent/director of special projects in the Downingtown School District and then became superintendent in the Daniel Boone School District in 1986. For the last 16 years, Dr. Jones has served as superintendent at Great Valley.

Dr. Jones has earned the respect of parents, teachers and staff for her excellent leadership and contagious optimism while challenging teachers and students to work hard and maximize their potential. Fellow educators throughout the state recognized Dr. Jones’ commitment to a high standard of educational excellence in 1998 when she was named Pennsylvania Superintendent of the Year.

After the school day ended, Dr. Jones continued serving her community by giving her

time and talents to the Brandywine Branch of the American Red Cross, The March of Dimes, Chester County Futures and several other professional and civic organizations.

Colleagues and friends will celebrate her wonderful career on Monday, June 22, 2009 during a dinner at The Desmond Hotel and Conference Center in Malvern.

Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me today in honoring Dr. Rita S. Jones for her 39 years of distinguished service as a teacher and administrator and recognizing her unwavering commitment to educational excellence.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. RALPH M. HALL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 19, 2009

Mr. HALL of Texas. Madam Speaker, pursuant to the Republican Leadership standards on earmarks, I am submitting the following information regarding earmarks I received as part of H.R. 2847, FY2010 Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2010:

Requesting Member: Congressman RALPH M. HALL

Bill Number: H.R. 2847, Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2010.

Account: National Aeronautics and Space Administration

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Texas Tech University

Address of Requesting Entity: 19th and University Avenue, Mail Stop 2131, Lubbock, TX 79404

Description of Request: I have secured \$1,000,000 for the Engineering Support For Extended Human and Robotic Space Flight Missions with Texas Tech University at Abilene. Funding for this project will contribute directly to NASA’s initiative of returning to the moon and further exploring Mars. For human and robotic missions, the center for Space Sciences is addressing the need for a decrease reliance on mission control due to the communication delays that occur in long distance missions. For human missions the center is also addressing the need for greater autonomy in dealing with the physical needs of the astronauts, including long term water recycling, which currently limits the habitation period possible without re-supply, and the ergonomics and human factors aspect of human performance in zero and reduced gravity environments. The major research areas will include recyclable/renewable water resources, autonomous/renewable control systems and ergonomics/human factors crew support. This project supports the space flight industry and related programs throughout Texas. I certify that neither I nor my spouse has any financial interest in this project.

HONORING THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF DR. MURIEL A. HOWARD

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 19, 2009

Mr. HIGGINS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and honor Dr. Muriel A. Howard of Western New York. After serving as president of Buffalo State College for 13 years, Dr. Howard will leave to become the president of the American Association of State Colleges and Universities in Washington, D.C. It is my privilege to highlight Dr. Muriel A. Howard as a woman whose extraordinary efforts as president of Buffalo State College have forever shaped and enhanced this fine institution in the 27th Congressional District.

Born in North Carolina, Dr. Howard was raised on a farm in Wilmington along with her five siblings. Dr. Howard learned at an early age the importance of hard work and social responsibility. Her parents and grandparents instilled the importance of education in their children. Dr. Howard always sat in the front row, excited and eager to learn. When her parents chose to move the family to Queens, education remained the top priority. Her mother drove her children to the best school in Queens.

Dr. Howard continued her education at City University of New York’s Richmond College where she received a degree in sociology and a minor in education. Dr. Howard also has a master’s degree in education from the University at Buffalo, and a doctorate of philosophy, in educational organization, administration, and policy from the University at Buffalo. At Harvard University, she earned a certificate in the Institute for Educational Management.

Accordingly, University at Buffalo presented Dr. Howard with leadership opportunities. She served as vice president of public service and urban affairs for 23 years, becoming the first woman to serve as vice president at SUNY Buffalo. Dr. Howard’s distinction as one of Western New York’s finest leaders led to the honor of being named the seventh president of Buffalo State College—the first woman president at the institution.

At Buffalo State College, Dr. Howard challenged the status quo and transformed it into a diversified college. The college is now known for its leadership in arts and culture because of the new \$30 million Burchfield Penney Art Center that would not have been possible without her efforts.

Nationally, Dr. Howard has been a leader in education. She has been involved on a number of boards including: the American Council of Education; the Division III President’s Council of the National Collegiate Athletics Association; the American Association of State Colleges and Universities, Merchants Insurance Company, Farm Credit Services of Western New York, and the Fleet Bank Community Relations Advisory Board.

Dr. Howard also has served the great state of New York through many organizations such as the New York State Department of Education Commissioner’s Council on Higher Education, the New York State Blue Ribbon Commission on Youth Leadership and the State University of New York Advisory Council on Teacher Education to name a few.

Her unrelenting devotion and selfless service will be missed at Buffalo State College and

in the Western New York community. On behalf of the Western New York Community, I thank Dr. Muriel A. Howard for her friendship, and for her service to Western New York and Buffalo State College. I congratulate Dr. Howard on this most recent achievement and wish her the best of success as she assumes the role of president of the American Association of State Colleges and Universities in Washington, D.C. I look forward to continuing the partnership we've formed and with gratitude and admiration, I ask all Members of Congress to join me in honoring an extraordinary woman of New York's 27th Congressional District, Dr. Muriel A. Howard.

IN RECOGNITION OF VEGAN
EARTH DAY 2009 AT PIERCE COL-
LEGE

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 19, 2009

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor and recognition of Vegan Earth Day 2009. On June 21, 2009 members of the community will promote and celebrate the healthy and environmentally sound, vegan lifestyle, abstaining from the consumption or use of animals or any animal bi-products.

Studies show that a vegan saves a ton and a half of carbon emissions per year. Vegans also require much less water in the production of their food. With the effects of climate change becoming more evident and water becoming more of a precious commodity, these individuals are leading the way to a cleaner and greener future by promoting the consumption of fruits, vegetables, nuts, grains and other organic foods. I also stand in recognition of the event's organizer, Bob Linden, as he continues to demonstrate outstanding leadership on conservation, humane treatment of animals, and healthy eating habits. This year's Vegan Earth Day will feature environmental and health experts, live music, animal adoptions and activities for kids that set the stage for other organizations across the country to follow in their footsteps.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honor of the program coordinator, Bob Linden, Pierce College, and the event volunteers as they celebrate Vegan Earth Day. I stand in recognition of the important contributions such an event will add to the promotion of living environmentally-conscious lifestyles across the country.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ALLYSON Y. SCHWARTZ

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 19, 2009

Ms. SCHWARTZ. Madam Speaker, during an absence yesterday, I regrettably missed rollcall votes No. 365, No. 378, No. 388, and No. 395. Had I been present, I would have voted in the following manner:

Rollcall No. 365: "no"; rollcall No. 378: "no"; rollcall No. 388: "yes"; rollcall No. 395: "no."

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. CAROLYN MCCARTHY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 19, 2009

Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York. Madam Speaker, yesterday, I missed one vote. I would have voted as follows:

Rollcall No. 365, on agreeing to the Hodes of New Hampshire Amendment to H.R. 2847, I would have voted "yea."

HONORING EFFORTS TO END
HOMELESSNESS IN HUDSON
COUNTY

HON. ALBIO SIRE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 19, 2009

Mr. SIRE. Madam Speaker, today I rise to honor efforts in my district to end homelessness. County and municipal governments, non-profit organizations, and business leaders, with guidance from the federal government, have joined together to end chronic homelessness. For nearly three years, the Alliance to End Homelessness in Hudson County has worked collaboratively to develop the ten-year plan with input from government officials, non-profit organizations, and those agencies working closely with Hudson County's homeless population. The Alliance's ten-year plan consists of 45 action steps to end homelessness that includes building 650 units of housing and providing health care and support services to homeless individuals and homeless families dealing with temporary dislocation due to fire, job loss, domestic abuse and other crisis. This collaboration is important because wide support is needed to solve this problem. Recognizing that, United Way of Hudson County is honoring TD Bank for their work to end homelessness; Governor Jon Corzine for his leadership in the state on this issue; and Dr. Philip Mangano the former Executive Director of the U.S. Interagency Council to End Homelessness for his guidance and advice in establishing Hudson County's Alliance. So I rise today to offer my support to the United Way of Hudson County and the Alliance to End Homelessness in Hudson County and I wish them continued success in their fight against homelessness.

A SPECIAL TRIBUTE TO GOLDEN
HERITAGE FOODS

HON. ROBERT E. LATTA

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 19, 2009

Mr. LATTA. Madam Speaker, it is with a great deal of pride that I rise to pay a very special tribute to an exceptional company located in Ohio's Fifth Congressional District. Golden Heritage Foods, a successful honey processing and distribution company, was named the 2009 "Enterprise of the Year."

Madam Speaker, there is no question that local businesses serve as one of the key building blocks of our state. Golden Heritage

Foods was established in 2002 through the joining of Barkman Honey Company located in Hillsboro, Kansas, and Stoller's Honey in Latty, Ohio. Since that time, the company has grown to become the second leading producer of branded retail honey sales and the top provider of honey in the United States to the food service industry.

While the company itself is relatively young, their legacy was well established prior to its founding due to over 40 years of hard work and dedication exhibited by both the Barkman and Stoller families. Not only has Golden Heritage Foods provided quality products since their opening, they have also created over 100 jobs for the citizens of Kansas and Ohio.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in paying special tribute to Golden Heritage Foods and its founders, Brent Barkman and Dwight Stoller. Our communities are well served by having dedicated entrepreneurs who assist in the growth and prosperity of our great nation. On behalf of the people of the Fifth District of Ohio, I am proud to recognize this great company on being named Van Wert, Ohio's 2009 "Enterprise of the Year" and wish them success in all future endeavors.

WE STAND UNITED FOR FREEDOM

HON. CANDICE S. MILLER

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 19, 2009

Mrs. MILLER of Michigan. Madam Speaker, I come to the floor today to show support for those in Iran who are standing up for their rights and for those who seek freedom across the globe.

Tyrants who use violence and fear to suppress the voices of their citizens who seek freedom lose their legitimacy to govern.

Those who seek freedom and liberty across this globe must know that the American people stand with you.

We stand with you because we have a supreme desire to live up to the belief espoused in the founding document of our nation—

We hold these truths to be self evident—that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their creator with certain unalienable rights, that among these are life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.

And to secure these rights governments are instituted among men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed.

That is why we stand consistently with nations who conduct free, fair, and open elections.

That is why we stand with citizens of nations who are brave enough to stand up and demand their freedom.

America does not seek to impose any individual on the Iranian government or the Iranian people.

But America will always stand with those who peacefully demand their voices are heard.

IN HONOR OF GEORGE L. FORBES

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 19, 2009

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of George L. Forbes and in

recognition of his deep commitment to country and community. George L. Forbes is being honored today with a Lifetime Achievement Award from the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP). For 17 years, Mr. Forbes has served as President of the NAACP, and helped support their mission of "ensuring the political, educational, social, and economic equality of rights of all persons" and eliminating racial discrimination in our country.

George Forbes has committed his life to serving and helping others. He served in the United States Marine Corps from 1951 to 1953. He taught social studies in the Cleveland public school system while completing his own education. In 1964, George was elected to the Cleveland City Council and his impressive career in public service included being Majority Leader of Cleveland City Council, Co-Chairman of the Cuyahoga County Democratic Party, and the longest serving City Council President in the city's history. In 1971 George co-founded Cleveland's first black-owned law firm, Forbes, Fields, & Associates Co. L.P.A.

The NAACP is not the first to bestow high honors on this remarkable man. His vocation for bettering the lives of those around him has earned him recognition from the Black Affairs Council, Cleveland State University Maxine Goodman Levin College of Urban Affairs, the National Association of Security Professionals, the National Action Network Inc., and Baldwin Wallace College where he taught courses in Political Science. With this outstanding record of service, it's no wonder that the Cleveland Plain Dealer named Mr. Forbes as one of the 50 most influential people in Cleveland's history.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honor and recognition of George L. Forbes as he receives the Lifetime Achievement Award from the NAACP. Mr. Forbes is the prime candidate for this prestigious recognition. His legacy and unwavering commitment to public service will serve as inspiration to others for decades to come.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. PETER T. KING

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 19, 2009

Mr. KING of New York. Madam Speaker, pursuant to the Republican Leadership standards on earmarks, I am submitting the following information regarding earmarks I received as part of H.R. 2892—the Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act, 2010.

Requesting Member: Congressman PETER T. KING

Bill Number: H.R. 2892

Account: Science & Technology/Research, Development, Acquisition, & Operations

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Long Island Forum for Technology

Address of Requesting Entity: 111 West Main Street, Babylon, NY 11706

Description of Request: \$1,000,000 will be used to continue a pilot program to identify and transition advanced technologies and manufacturing processes that will achieve significant productivity and efficiency gains in the homeland security industrial base. It is an ap-

propriate use of taxpayer funds because this project will increase quality while reducing the costs of products delivered to first responders.

HONORING THE MEMORY OF JOSEPH WILLIAM MCCRAY, JR.

HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 19, 2009

Mr. BONNER. Madam Speaker, the city of Mobile and indeed the entire state of Alabama recently lost a dear friend, and I rise today to honor him and pay tribute to his memory. Joseph William McCray Jr. was a devoted family man and an outstanding community leader.

A native of Pensacola, Mr. McCray was raised in the Carver's Court neighborhood in north Mobile. He was a graduate of Central High School and attended Tennessee State University.

A veteran of the U.S. Army, Mr. McCray dedicated over three decades to the South Alabama Regional Planning Commission Area Agency on Aging serving as the nutrition coordinator. He was instrumental in the development and operation of nutrition centers for the elderly in Mobile, Baldwin and Escambia counties. Following his retirement, he served as the director of the U.J. Robinson Memorial Adult Day Care Center. He had also served as the District 2 commissioner for Mobile's Human Relations Commission.

Mr. McCray joined the Mobile Area Mardi Gras Association (MAMGA) in the early 1970s and quickly became involved in all of the association's committees, including serving as financial secretary. He was instrumental in organizing MAMGA's joint functions with the Mobile Carnival Association. In 1992, Mr. McCray was elected as the third president of MAMGA and served until 1996. He is one of only a few men widely known as "Mr. Mardi Gras."

Mr. McCray was a past president of 100 Black Men of Greater Mobile, and he recently received their coveted Achievement Award. He was also a 3rd Degree Knights of St. Peter Claver and was a past president of the Comrades Social Club. An active member of his church, Prince of Peace Catholic Church, Mr. McCray served on the Parish Council, the Building and Grounds Committee, and many other affiliations within the parish.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in remembering a man who dedicated his life to south Alabama. Mr. McCray will be dearly missed by his family—his wife of 44 years, Faye C. McCray; his son, Joseph McCray III; his sisters, Jolita Dorsett and Severia Norton; and his grandchildren, Julian Christopher and Reagan Michelle McCray—as well as the countless friends he leaves behind.

Our thoughts and prayers are with them during this difficult time.

INCREASING THE LEVEL OF EXPERTISE AND CULTURAL AWARENESS IN AFGHANISTAN

HON. MARK STEVEN KIRK

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 19, 2009

Mr. KIRK. Madam Speaker, today I introduced legislation along with my colleague from

Washington, Mr. LARSEN, to enhance the ability of General McChrystal to bring our mission in Afghanistan to a successful conclusion.

One of the key problems facing our mission in Afghanistan is the limitation on service for nearly all military and most civilians deployed there. Nearly all Americans serve no longer than 12 months, costing the overall U.S. effort critical military, language and personal relationship experience needed to sustain momentum in the war effort.

General McChrystal intends to implement a "classic counterinsurgency campaign" designed to win the support of the Afghan people and drive a wedge between them and the Taliban. In a tribal culture like Afghanistan, it will be essential for General McChrystal to have people with established, personal relationships with local leaders in order for his strategy to succeed.

Our legislation authorizes a \$250,000 incentive bonus for servicemembers to agree to serve in Afghanistan for the duration of the mission, up to six years. This bonus would be paid at the end of their service in Afghanistan. The bill authorizes an additional \$250,000 incentive bonus for a servicemember who volunteers for the duration who scores a 4.0 on the Foreign Service Institute test for the dominant languages of Pashto and Dari. These soldiers would receive a payment of \$500,000 at the completion of their service in Afghanistan.

These "for the duration" volunteers would quickly become the elite of our effort, bringing the most skills to bear for senior commanders and troops in contact with the enemy. The knowledge they would bring cannot be taught in the U.S., it can only be gained through experience in the field. Just a handful of these soldiers in each Afghan province will make a world of difference.

HONORING THE 90TH ANNIVERSARY OF A&W RESTAURANT

HON. JERRY MCNERNEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 19, 2009

Mr. MCNERNEY. Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating the 90th anniversary of A&W, a famous and treasured American company.

Founded in Lodi, California, a city I am honored to represent, meals and root beer floats at A&W are a tradition for many families.

A&W started as a root beer stand owned by Roy Allen, who sold root beer for a nickel a mug on a downtown corner. The soda proved so popular that the company quickly expanded to four sites, and the concession evolved into what is thought to be the country's first "drive-in."

Later, Mr. Allen asked Frank Wright, one of his employees, to join him in business and the two formed the partnership that became A&W.

There are more than 675 A&W All American Food outlets in 15 countries and territories around the world, and A&W produces the world's number one selling root beer.

I ask my colleagues to join me in commemorating A&W's 90 years of exceptional service.

HONORING FRED H. SWANSON

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 19, 2009

Mr. COSTA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay special tribute to Mr. Fred H. Swanson. On June 29, 2009, after 26 years, Fred is retiring from his position as Director of the University of California Kearney Research and Extension Center near Parlier, California, a tenure that saw the transformation of a quiet UC field station into a world-class agricultural research facility.

Mr. Swanson's journey began only five miles from Kearney on the family farm. Upon graduating from high school, Fred left for college to the University of California, Davis. In 1965, upon receiving his Bachelor of Science Degree in Viticulture, the adventurous side of Fred led him to take a position growing food for thousands of workers who were tasked with constructing dams in West Pakistan. Three years later, the job finished with West Pakistan's electricity capacity successfully doubled and the 35-acre farm effectively turned over to the Pakistan army. With the completion of this project, Mr. Swanson returned to California where he took a post managing a vineyard in the McDowell Valley of Mendocino County.

Mr. Swanson was then hired as a UC Cooperative Extension viticulture farm advisor for Fresno County, a position he held for 10 years. Fred then returned to expand his own farming operation while helping others with their farms. During this time, Fred met the legendary viticulture specialist Fred Jensen which led Mr. Swanson to apply for the open directorship at the Kearney Ag Station.

Since 1983, Fred has made outstanding contributions to the Kearney Ag Station. One of his early additions was the purchase of 75 acres of farmland across the street from the original parcel. With this purchase, the total amount of land available for research grew to 330 acres with 45 different varieties of agricultural crops including stone fruit, nut crops, raisins, wine and table grapes, specialty vegetables, blueberries and kiwifruit being grown on this acreage.

In 1989, Swanson made one of his most visible improvements with the construction of a two-story state of the art laboratory, office and meeting complex. This laboratory and office complex provided UC scientists, recognized worldwide for their pioneering agricultural research, the facilities needed to further their research. Additionally, under Fred's direction, a 20,000 square foot greenhouse complex was completed in 2003. This complex continues to give Valley agricultural scientists access to 24 high quality greenhouse modules with computer controlled heating, cooling and lighting systems. Among his many awards, Fred's accomplishments have been recognized by the University of California, Davis through the Award of Distinction from the College of Ag & Environmental Sciences and the Citation for Excellence by the Cal Aggie Alumni Association.

Madam Speaker, it goes without saying that Mr. Swanson's dedication and accomplishments to the San Joaquin Valley's agriculture

community have gained him respect and appreciation from all who have worked with him and know him. With retirement now a reality, Fred is preparing to spend more time with his wife Cheryl, as well as enjoying fishing and hunting trips. We owe Fred a magnificent collective thank you. I honor Fred Swanson, before you my colleagues, for his productive years of service to agriculture and the nation.

IN HONOR OF ELLEN PSENICKA

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 19, 2009

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor and recognition of Ellen Psenicka, whose forty-year tenure as reporter, editor and publisher of the award-winning *Neighborhood News*, continues to enlighten, entertain and unite Cleveland's southeast community every Wednesday, highlighting current events along our city streets—from the neighborhoods of Slavic Village, to the streets of Garfield Heights, to the steps of Cleveland City Hall.

Ellen grew up in Sandusky, Ohio and went on to attend Ohio University, where she earned a Bachelor's degree in Journalism. Shortly following graduation, in June, 1969, Ellen was hired as a reporter by Jim Psenicka, publisher of the *Neighborhood News*. A few years later, Jim and Ellen were married, and they worked in dedication to each other, to the newspaper and to the community until Jim's passing in 2001. At that time, Ellen accepted the torch of leadership passed to her by Jim, and she continues to carry on his legacy of excellence in journalism, and his commitment to the Greater Cleveland Community.

Ellen's spirit of volunteerism and focus on the betterment of the community is evident throughout Southeast Cleveland and its suburbs. Her kind and humble nature draws people to her, and she has garnered the admiration and respect of everyone she knows. She is a longtime member of the Garfield Heights Historical Society and serves as a board member for Cleveland Central Catholic High School. She is currently serving her second term as President of the Kiwanis of Southeast Cleveland. As a member and leader in Kiwanis, Ellen has been instrumental in leading several fundraising efforts aimed at local student scholarship awards, and recently, a fundraiser and recognition dinner honoring Dr. Javier Lopez which raised greatly-needed funds for his medical missions to Central America. Ellen has always reached out with a generous heart wherever and whenever needed. Her efforts in volunteerism also include her tireless dedication in her efforts to save St. Michael's hospital.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honor and recognition of Ellen Psenicka, as she celebrates her 40th Anniversary with the *Neighborhood News*. The *Neighborhood News* is read by tens of thousands of people weekly, and continues to inform and unite us all. Ellen's commitment to bringing us the news of the neighborhood and her generosity as a community leader and volunteer serves to brighten and strengthen our entire community.

HONORING THE MEMORY OF SHERIFF EDWARD JACKSON "JACK" DAY

HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 19, 2009

Mr. BONNER. Madam Speaker, Thomasville and indeed all of Clarke County recently lost a dear friend, and I rise today to honor him and pay tribute to his memory.

Edward Jackson Day, known to his friends and family as "Jack," served the people of Clarke County as a law enforcement officer for nearly four decades—as a sheriff's deputy, chief deputy, and eventually as sheriff of Clarke County. He devoted his 71 years to his family, his faith, and to keeping the residents of Thomasville and surrounding communities safe.

Jack began his law enforcement career as an auxiliary state trooper in 1967, and was promoted to a full-time deputy three years later. In 1978, he became chief deputy under Sheriff Roy Sheffield. When Sheriff Sheffield retired in 1993, Jack was appointed sheriff of Clarke County and served in that capacity until his retirement in January of 2007. He was a past president of the Alabama Sheriff's Association and a member of the National Sheriff's Association, the Fraternal Order of Police and the Democratic Executive Committee. In addition, Sheriff Day was an avid hunter and a member of Oliver Lodge No. 334 F&AM.

Sheriff Day was also an active member of his church, Pineview Baptist Church, where he served as a deacon. He served on the board of the Southwest Alabama Children's Advocacy Center, as well as the advisory boards of the Department of Youth Services and Life Tech community. He was also a former board member and chairman of the Boys and Girls Club.

As he prepared to retire as sheriff, Jack noted, "You learn to take the bad times with the good times. We've had some tragedies, but we've had a lot more good times and I'm glad for that. You always remember you're there to protect and serve the people."

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in remembering a dedicated community leader, a friend to many throughout south Alabama, as well as a wonderful husband, loving father, grandfather, and great-grandfather. Jack Day will be dearly missed by his family—his wife, Wilma Gates Day; his son, Mayor Sheldon Allison Day; his daughter, Daphne Elaine Day; his two sisters, Mary Ellen Day Parten and Jerry Ann Day Little; his five grandchildren, Jeffrey Devin Deas, Brittney Elaine Deas, Leslie Allison Dellinger, and Kaitlin Elizabeth Day and Thomas Zachary Day; and his three great-grandchildren, Carrigan Elizabeth Day, and Malya Elizabeth Deas and Devin Baine Deas—as well as the countless friends he leaves behind.

Our thoughts and prayers are with them all during this difficult time.

LESSONS TO BE LEARNED FROM
MAYOR SCARCELLA OF STAFFORD,
TEXAS

HON. RON PAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 19, 2009

Mr. PAUL. Madam Speaker, public officials looking for ways to increase economic growth and attract new residents and businesses to their cities, counties, or states could learn a lot from the city of Stafford, Texas, and Mayor Leonard Scarcella. Stafford has flourished since 1995 when, under Mayor Scarcella's leadership, the city eliminated the property tax.

Thanks to the absence of property taxes, Stafford residents enjoy cheaper mortgages and have more disposable income than similarly situated residents of towns with property taxes. The extra income as a result of the freedom from property taxes is particularly beneficial during today's tough economic times.

The loss of property tax revenue has not deprived Stafford residents of quality city services; in fact, Stafford resident Alice Rolston told the Houston Chronicle that the police check on her home when she is on vacation, many homeowners living in towns with high property taxes can't count on that type of service.

Entrepreneurs looking to start up businesses are attracted to Stafford because of the lack of property taxes. Fortune magazine ranks Stafford the 36th best American city to start and run a small business.

While Stafford sales, franchise, and permit fees account for some of its ability to operate without a property tax, the major factor in the city's success is the city's fiscally prudent management. Stafford Councilman Cecil Willis says the mayor watches every penny in the city's budget. City employees often perform two or more functions and the city council even debates whether to authorize the purchase of light bulbs and pencils.

Madam Speaker, Mayor Scarcella is also a good argument against term limits, as he is one of the few elected officials who remains as committed to low taxes today as when he led the fight to eliminate the property tax. Mayor Scarcella should serve as a role model to us all in how to effectively govern without burdening the people with excessive taxes.

HONORING DR. TONY STEWART

HON. G. K. BUTTERFIELD

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 19, 2009

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Madam Speaker, I rise to express great sadness about the untimely passing of Elizabeth City-Pasquotank Public Schools Superintendent Dr. Tony Stewart.

Dr. Stewart has served as superintendent for the past nine years, and he had earned the respect of the community as a talented and dedicated educator who worked tirelessly to ensure every student received the best possible education. I will remember him for always stressing the responsibility and importance of working to make a difference in the lives of others.

He started his career in 1963 as a teacher, assistant principal and athletic director at Spotsylvania High School in Virginia before serving as a principal for several other schools in Virginia. Dr. Stewart's first job as a superintendent was at Culpeper County Schools in Virginia, where he served for 13 years starting in 1981. He became superintendent of North Carolina's Burke County Schools in 1994, where he served until coming to Elizabeth City-Pasquotank in 2000.

Dr. Stewart received his bachelor's and master's degrees from Appalachian State University and completed postgraduate work at the University of Virginia and Virginia Tech University. He received his doctorate in education from Nova Southeastern University in 1995 and also completed the Principal's Executive Program at the University of North Carolina that same year.

Madam Speaker, I ask that everyone join me in offering our deepest condolences to his family, friends, loved ones, community and colleagues. Dr. Stewart has been a tremendous asset to the community and he will be greatly missed.

NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION LAND
CONSERVATION ACT

HON. JAMES P. MORAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 19, 2009

Mr. MORAN of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I am pleased to be joined today with Representatives ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON, GERALD CONNOLLY, ROB WITTMAN, DONNA EDWARDS, CHRIS VAN HOLLEN, FRANK WOLF and STENY HOYER to introduce legislation National Capital Region Land Conservation Act of 2009. The legislation amends the Capper-Cramton Act of 1930, authorizing appropriations of up to \$50 million per year for cost share grants to State, regional and local governments to acquire land in the greater Washington Metropolitan area (as defined by the U.S. Census) for a variety of conservation, environmental and recreational purposes. The program would be administered by the U.S. National Park Service.

Few cannot help but notice the green spaces that make up the central core of our nation's capital. Were it not for some visionaries at the turn of the 19th Century, however, our nation's capital would be a different place today. There would be no Mall, monument core, Rock Creek Parkway, Union Station, Lincoln Memorial or Tidal Basin. These icons that define the city today were part of the 1902 McMillan plan, named after Senator James McMillan of Michigan, who chaired the Senate Committee on the District of Columbia. The commission Senator McMillan established to draft the master plan included some of the greatest American architects, landscape architects and urban planners of the day including such luminaries as Daniel Burnham, Frederick Law Olmsted, Jr. and Charles McKim and sculptor August Saint-Gaudens. The commission's plan, in many respects, was an early form of urban renewal that removed many of the slums that surrounded the Capitol, replacing them with new public monuments, open spaces and government buildings.

As visionary as the plan was, it also took some vision and political muscle to make it a

reality. That credit falls largely to two Members of Congress: Senator Arthur Capper of Kansas and Rep. Louis Cramton of Michigan. Both Members embraced the vision and worked over a period of years to enact legislation to advance the McMillan plan. Best known among these laws is the Capper-Cramton law of 1930 authorizing land purchases and creating today's the National Capital Park and Planning Commission.

Today, more than a century since the McMillan plan and more than 70 years since the enactment of Capper-Cramton, the time is now for a new plan, one that is responsive to the development patterns and demographics that were never envisioned at the turn of the last century. In 1902, the population of the District of Columbia was 278,000. Outside a few dirt roads and a few railroad junctions that ran into Northern Virginia and Maryland, the suburbs didn't exist. Dairies and farming hamlets populated Northern Virginia and Montgomery and Prince Georges County, Maryland.

Today, the District is home to 600,000 residents and swells to more than 1,000,000 during the workday. A network of roads and heavy rail radiate out from the city, like spokes on a wheel, linking more than 5,300,000 people who are spread out into the suburbs and fringe communities that consider themselves part of the greater metropolitan Washington, D.C. region. Today, we need a program for the greater metropolitan region.

We also need a program that helps lead the way in public investments to preserve the green infrastructure of parklands, fresh drinking water sources, steep slopes, stream valleys, forests, wetlands, wildlife corridors, scenic view sheds, historic sites and land buffering national monuments, battlefields that surround the national capital region and are endangered of being lost to development. Safeguarding these green assets is critical to this region's economy, quality of life, and environmental protection. Green infrastructure have been long recognized as essential elements of urban design and critical to safeguarding our region's drinking water supplies and restoration of the nationally important Chesapeake Bay and the Potomac River, truly our "Nation's River."

Unless we act now to protect the remaining green infrastructure around our Nation's Capital, we run the risk of permanently degrading the environment in and around Washington, D.C. Between 1990 and now, the region's population grew by about 10 percent but the amount of impermeable surface grew about 40 percent. Forecasts predict that by the year 2030, the Greater Washington, D.C. region will grow by an additional 2 million persons.

I believe Congress can and should help the nation's capital address this growing need to preserve this region's green infrastructure by amending the time honored and visionary Capper-Cramton Act. The original Act gave life to many of the elements that we appreciate and consider invaluable today. It is time once again to act and preserve our source of fresh drinking water, connect this region's network of nonmotorized trails, provide buffers to protect scenic vistas along the Potomac particularly above Great Falls, and in Charles and Saint Mary's Counties in Maryland, and pocket parks in the more urbanized parts of the region.

I encourage you to support this act.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. DAVID G. REICHERT

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 19, 2009

Mr. REICHERT. Madam Speaker, along with 136 of my colleagues, I was unable to return to the House floor in time for an unexpected recorded vote on a motion to rise late in the evening of June 16, 2009. Had I been present for the vote, I would have voted "no" so that the House would consider an amendment to assess the economic impact of the delay in enacting the Colombia Free Trade Agreement.

IN TRIBUTE OF DR. RANDOLPH E. BROOKS

HON. LEONARD LANCE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 19, 2009

Mr. LANCE. Madam Speaker, later this month, doctors of optometry from around the country will assemble at the Gaylord Resort at National Harbor for Optometry's Meeting®, the American Optometric Association's 111th annual convention. On Saturday, June 27th, Dr. Randolph E. Brooks of Saccasunna, New Jersey will be elected as the association's 88th president. Randy's enthusiasm and many contributions to his profession earned him this prestigious recognition.

Doctors of optometry are the nation's largest eye care profession serving patients in nearly 6,500 communities nationwide, and in more than 3,500 of these communities they are the only eye doctors. Dr. Brooks has dedicated his life to serving the public both as an optometrist and a community leader.

Dr. Brooks' dedication and motivation will propel him to a most successful term as he leads the American Optometric Association in its mission to improve eye care in the United States.

Dr. Brooks has compiled an impressive record in his profession and his community. After graduating from the State University of New York at Albany, Dr. Brooks enrolled at the New England College of Optometry and later established Advanced Eyecare Associates, a three doctor practice in New Jersey with specialty interests in ocular disease, contact lenses, pediatric eye care and vision therapy. Starting out in 1977 in Budd Lake, New Jersey and later moving to Ledgewood, Dr. Brooks has grown his practice to a staff of fifteen at the Ledgewood facility.

Dr. Brooks was first elected to the American Optometric Association's Board of Trustees in 2000. Prior to the election to the AOA Board, Dr. Brooks was twice named the New Jersey Society of Optometric Physicians' Optometrist of the Year. He also is a past president of the New Jersey Society of Optometric Physicians. Randy's leadership record extends to his community service as a Paul Harris Fellow of the Roxbury Rotary Club, past president of the Mount Olive Lions Club, and as a Board of Directors member of Temple Shalom.

Dr. Randolph Brooks has distinguished himself in the Northwestern New Jersey community through his unique vision and spirit. I wish

to convey heartfelt congratulations to Randy and his family on the occasion of his installation as the 88th president of the American Optometric Association, as well as many thanks for working to enrich the lives of those around him.

I ask my colleagues to join me in commending Dr. Randolph E. Brooks.

HONORING THE MEMORY OF MR. CHRIS C. DE LANEY

HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 19, 2009

Mr. BONNER. Madam Speaker, south Alabama and indeed the entire state recently lost a dear friend, and I rise today to honor him and pay tribute to his memory.

Chris C. De Laney, a devoted family man, lawyer, and philanthropist was dedicated to the continued growth and prosperity of Mobile. A 1948 graduate of the University of Alabama Law School, Mr. De Laney was the first attorney for the University of South Alabama (USA) and was instrumental in the school's negotiations to obtain the old Mobile General Hospital.

He also helped found The University of South Alabama foundation as well as USA Hospital, Southland and Doctor's hospitals, the Historic Blakely Foundation, The Southland Foundation, The Dauphin Island Foundation, and First Small Business Investment Company of Alabama.

Mr. De Laney was appointed as Mobile's acting district attorney in 1979. He also served as chairman of the Alabama Consumer Protection Council, chief executive officer and chairman of Altus Bank, as well as many other business, civic, and religious organizations including Boy Scouts of America and the Isle Dauphine Club.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in remembering a dedicated community leader and friend to many throughout Alabama. Mr. Chris De Laney will be deeply missed by his family—his loving wife of 64 years, Cleo J. De Laney; his four sons, David C. De Laney, Bryan C. De Laney, Michael C. De Laney, and Robin C. De Laney; his nine grandchildren; and his four great grandchildren—as well as the countless friends he leaves behind. Our thoughts and prayers are with them all at this difficult time.

COMMERCE, JUSTICE, SCIENCE, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2010

SPEECH OF

HON. RUSH D. HOLT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 16, 2009

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2847) making appropriations for the Departments of Commerce and Justice, and Science, and Related Agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2010, and for other purposes.

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Chair, I rise in support of this bill.

This legislation makes significant investments in two of our nation's top priorities—protecting Americans at home and in their communities, and encouraging scientific research and innovation.

One of the fundamental responsibilities of our government is ensuring the safety and security of our citizens by keeping our streets and neighborhoods safe. One of the most successful crime fighting programs in recent history is the Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) program. This bill provides \$802 million overall for the program and \$282 million for COPS hiring grants. When combined with the \$1 billion provided in the Recovery Act, more than 7,000 police offices will be hired nationwide, 287 of those in New Jersey.

Through this bill, the Office of Justice Programs will receive \$2.2 billion, \$155 million over the Fiscal Year 2009 level. Programs such as the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grants Program will receive \$529 million to assist state and local law enforcement agencies in their efforts to control domestic crime as well as combat violent crimes, particular gang and drug-related criminal activity.

The bill also provides \$400 million (\$11 million over the 2009 level) to the Office on Violence Against Women to aid in the prevention and prosecution of violent crime against women. Funds allocated by this bill will be used to strengthen the services available to victims of domestic violence, sexual assault and stalking.

In the area of science funding, the bill provides over \$30 billion to support research at the National Science Foundation, the National Institute of Standards and Technology, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. The appropriations in this bill support the plan to double funding for basic research, as expressed by Congress in the American COMPETES Act. History shows that our country and our economy benefit when the federal government invests in our national innovation and intellectual infrastructure.

This bill helps our students succeed in a global job market by investing \$1 billion to support all aspects of science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) education from kindergarten through graduate school. It is imperative that we ensure our future generations are equipped with the skills they need to be capable participants in a scientific and technological workforce. Our economic growth is intertwined with our ability to remain competitive in the areas of Science and Technology. I want to thank the subcommittee chair, Mr. MOLLOHAN, and the chairman of the full committee, Mr. OBEY, for demonstrating a commitment to make meaningful investments in science education to guarantee the success of our children in this global market place.

I also am pleased that the bill includes over \$2 billion to study global climate change, undoubtedly one of the greatest challenges facing our Nation. Over \$700 million will be used by the National Science Foundation and National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration for climate change research and educational programs. The Geophysical Fluid Dynamics Laboratory in my district is leading the national effort in climate change research by employing sophisticated mathematical models and computer simulations to improve our knowledge and ability to predict climatic behavior and

trends. An additional investment of over \$1.3 billion will be used to develop measurement techniques and for green building initiatives nationwide. It is vital to both our economic and our national security that we take whatever measures are necessary to gain a comprehensive understanding of the mechanisms that drive global warming in order to implement the full range of measures necessary to combat it.

Finally, this bill also ensures that we will be able to conduct an accurate decennial Census in 2010. On top of the \$1 billion that was provided for the Census in the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, this bill matches the President's request for \$7.4 billion to conduct the largest and most advanced Census in our nation's history.

Mr. Chair, I commend the committee for bringing us a bill that reflects the priorities of the American people, and I urge my colleagues to vote for it.

HONORING A LOCAL MUSICIAN'S CAREER

HON. ADAM H. PUTNAM

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 19, 2009

Mr. PUTNAM. Madam Speaker, a great education is a well-rounded education. This means students should not only be exposed to technical subjects such as math and the sciences, but the humanities and arts as well. Today I wish to honor the life and career of a woman who made great contributions to Florida's music culture as well as inspiring many young students, Mrs. Billye-Mullins Smith.

A resident of Winter Haven, Florida, Mrs. Smith was a musician, music educator, and music composer who has impacted the life of many young school children since the mid-1940s. She authored the Opus I Music Study program, which provided a great study for aspiring young musicians. Her late husband, Carroll Smith II, provided the lyrics for the song she composed entitled, "I Want To Wake Up In The Morning Where The Orange Blossoms Grow," which is more commonly known as, "The Florida Song."

This song touched many Floridians statewide. It originally started as a piece to be played in front of the Winter Haven Lions Club meeting with her husband singing backed by her piano. In short order, this piece made its way from the Lions Club meeting into elementary school classrooms. Since then, several generations grew up singing about the orange blossoms and birds of the great state of Florida.

Mrs. Smith was honored on Sunday, March 22, 2009 at the Lakeland Center in the Yourkey Theater.

INTRODUCTION OF THE LEGISLATION TO INCREASE THE NUMBER OF PERMANENT FEDERAL DISTRICT COURT JUDGESHIPS IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

HON. KEVIN MCCARTHY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 19, 2009

Mr. MCCARTHY of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of legislation I introduced, along with my colleagues Congressman WALLY HERGER, Congressman DAN LUNGREN, Congressman TOM MCCLINTOCK, Congressman BUCK MCKEON, Congressman DEVIN NUNES, and Congressman GEORGE RADANOVICH, which would create four new permanent district court judgeships and one temporary district court judgeship in the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of California, as well as designate Bakersfield, California, as a place of holding court for the Eastern District of California.

For the year ending September 30, 2008, according to the most recent data available from the Administrative Office of the United States Courts, the Eastern District of California had 1,305 pending cases per judge, a 50.2% increase since 2003, and weighted filings of 970 per judge, a 26.5% increase since 2003, which is substantially above the weighted filing standard used by the Judicial Conference of the United States to determine when additional judgeships are needed. Moreover, in 2008, the Eastern District of California had the highest number of pending cases and weighted filings per judge of all other district courts in the Ninth Judicial Circuit, including the district courts that serve Los Angeles and San Francisco.

In the 2005 Biennial Judgeship Survey, the Judicial Conference of the United States recommended four additional permanent judgeships for the Eastern District of California. Specifically, the report states:

"The Court is requesting three permanent judgeships and conversion of the temporary judgeship to a permanent position based on a steadily increasing and consistently high weighted caseload. The Judicial Conference has recommended conversion of the temporary position since 1997, and also recommended one permanent judgeship and one temporary judgeship in 1997 and 1999, two permanent judgeships since 2001, and three permanent judgeships in the 2003 survey."

More recently, during the March 2009 biannual meeting, the Judicial Conference voted to ask Congress to create sixty-three new federal judgeships, fifty-one of which would be for district courts. Within this proposal, the Judicial Conference recommended the Eastern District of California receive four additional permanent judgeships and one temporary judgeship. My bill seeks to implement the Judicial Conference's recommendations for the Eastern District of California, which includes at its southern-most point, Kern County, which I represent.

My bill would also designate Bakersfield, California, as a place of holding court for the Eastern District of California. Such a designation does not require or imply a district court

be located in Bakersfield. This designation would simply make Bakersfield eligible to have the Eastern District of California locate a district court judge there should caseload require. Under current law, the City of Fresno, the City of Redding, and the City of Sacramento are all currently designated as a place of holding court for the Eastern District of California.

The current population of Bakersfield is 315,837, which is similar in size to Fresno (pop. 470,508) and Sacramento (pop. 460,242), and significantly larger than Redding (pop. 89,780). That said, Bakersfield is a fast growing city in California and, due to affordable housing and its proximity to Los Angeles, is expected to continue to grow in the future. To that end, the City's population is projected to grow by more than 14 percent to over 557,000 by 2015 and Kern County is projected to grow by more than 24 percent to nearly one million over the next decade, growth well above the 8.7 percent national population growth rate projected by the U.S. Census Bureau for 2010 to 2020.

Furthermore, Kern and Inyo Counties currently account for almost 23% of the Fresno division civil filings and 9% of Eastern District civil filings. As these counties continue to grow, it is reasonable to assume that filings will increase, and this designation provides the Eastern District of California the flexibility to locate a district judge in Bakersfield in the future.

In terms of geography, the Eastern District of California is the largest judicial district of the four federal district court districts in California, encompassing over 87,000 square miles (34 of California's 58 counties) and almost 600 miles long. According to the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Eastern District of California, this judicial district is the eighth most populous and physically the tenth largest of all 94 U.S. District Court judicial districts in the United States. Thus, travel within the sprawling Eastern District is time-consuming, not to mention expensive.

Furthermore, there is no major metropolitan area designated as a place of holding court in the southern region of the Eastern District of California. Redding is located in the north of the judicial district, Sacramento is located in the north central area of the district, and Fresno is located in the south central area of the district. A designation for Bakersfield would make the largest city in the southern part of this judicial district at minimum eligible to have a district court judge in the future.

The Sixth Amendment of the U.S. Constitution guarantees "the right to a speedy and public trial." In order to preserve this constitutional right in the Eastern District of California, I fully support the Judicial Conference's judgeship recommendations, as well as making Bakersfield, California, eligible as a place of holding court. My bill would ensure the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of California has the requisite number of judges to execute its duties in a timely manner for the citizens the Court serves, ensure the Court has the resources to adjudicate current and future cases, which are only expected to increase, and ensure the equitable administration of justice in California.

HONORING KIRK LINDSEY

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 19, 2009

Mr. RADANOVICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Kirk Lindsey for his dedication to his family and community. Mr. Lindsey passed away on Wednesday, June 10, 2009, at Doctors Medical Hospital in Modesto, California surrounded by friends and family. Mr. Lindsey was 62 years old.

Kirk Lindsey was born on May 12, 1947 in San Jose, California, to Robert and Carol Lindsey. He attended Abilene Christian University where he earned a Bachelors of Science degree in Business Administration. He also participated in the Masters of Business Administration program at Pepperdine University. In 1969, Mr. Lindsey was commissioned into the United States Army after completing ROTC at Hardin Simmons University in Abilene, Texas. After serving in Korea Mr. Lindsey returned to California in 1971.

Mr. Lindsey became President of Brite Transportation System, Incorporated, in Riverbank, California; a company he founded in 1972. Brite Transportation was created to transport agricultural products and products of preservation. In 1976, Mr. Lindsey became the Managing General Partner of B&P Bulk, also an agricultural trucking company. Between the two companies there are offices currently operating in Riverbank, El Centro, Hanford and Woodland, California.

Mr. Lindsey was always very involved with his community. At the time of his passing, he served on the California Transportation Commission which is responsible for the programming and allocation of funds for the construction of highway, passenger rail and transit improvements throughout California. He was appointed to this position by former Governor Gray Davis on November 10, 2000, and Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger on April 7, 2004 (reappointed on February 14, 2008). He had previously served as commissioner of that organization. He was the current chairman of the Stanislaus County Private Industry Council, President of the Modesto Chamber of Commerce and a past President of the California Trucking Association. Mr. Lindsey was a founding member of the Riverbank Chamber of Commerce, served as Vice-President of the California Casualty Insurance Board and served on the Board of Directors of Parkridge Christian Estates. He worked closely with the Stanislaus Economic Development and Workforce Alliance and the California Workforce Investment Board.

Mr. Lindsey placed a special emphasis on education. He was the founder and President of the Beyer High School Educational Foundation. He served on the school's accreditation committee, was past President of the Beyer Booster Club and was a committee member for the Beyer Crab Feed for eighteen years. This past school year Mr. Lindsey completed his twentieth year as Beyer High School's boys and girls swimming and water polo coach. Outside of the school, he served on board of the Stanislaus Partnership in Education.

Through all of his community involvement, he made time for family, church and travel. His passion was traveling; he visited over sev-

enty-five countries. He was a member of the Davis Park Church of Christ since 1972.

Mr. Lindsey was preceded in death by his father. He is survived by his mother, Carol Lindsey of San Jose; his wife, Cyndi of Modesto; his sister Anne Lucier of Sacramento; his daughters, Shannon Suesens and her husband John of Sacramento, Whitney Lindsey and Tiffany Lindsey of Modesto and Ashleigh Lindsey of Portland, Oregon; and grandson Brendan Suesens of Sacramento. He is also survived by his nieces, Christine and Courtney Lucier of Sacramento, Stacy Gorton of Seattle, Washington and his grand-nephew Cameron Lucier of Sacramento.

Madam Speaker, I rise today to posthumously honor Kirk Lindsey. I invite my colleagues to join me in honoring Mr. Lindsey's life and wishing the best for his family.

COMMERCE, JUSTICE, SCIENCE,
AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2010

SPEECH OF

HON. BOB ETHERIDGE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 16, 2009

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2847) making appropriations for the Departments of Commerce and Justice, and Science, and Related Agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2010, and for other purposes:

Mr. ETHERIDGE. Mr. Chair, I rise today in support of H.R. 2847, the Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act of 2010.

This legislation will fund the Departments of Commerce and Justice, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, the National Science Foundation, and several other independent agencies. These collective agencies and departments allow our nation to continue to invest in critical science research, like climate change, education, and state and local law enforcement.

At a time when our nation is in need of rebuilding, and our communities to be made safer for our children, this bill will provide \$3.4 billion for state and local law enforcement and crime prevention grants, including more than \$800 million for Community Oriented Police Services (COPS), to help keep our streets and neighborhoods safer, \$400 million for the Office on Violence Against Women, and \$2 billion for the Drug Enforcement Administration.

To help these children grow up in a safe environment, and move into adulthood with the opportunity that a better education will present, the bill offers \$1 billion for Science Education, and over \$18 billion for NASA. Overall, it provides nearly \$31 billion for science as part of a commitment to America's innovation and competitiveness.

A vote in support of this bill is a vote in favor of our security, our liberty, and the hope of our future through education.

I urge my colleagues to join me in support of H.R. 2847.

FATHERS DAY 2009

HON. JOHN L. MICA

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 19, 2009

Mr. MICA. Madam Speaker, as we recognize Fathers Day 2009, probably never before has fatherhood been so challenged. The traditional position of fathers in American society and in the family as an institution is in serious trouble.

On a recent flight back to Washington I happened to open a local newspaper to birth notices. Nearly half of the births recorded were out of wedlock and about a dozen of the birth notices did not identify a father. In fact, today 28% of Caucasian, 51% Hispanic, and 70% African American children are born out of wedlock, while white males face a challenging role, their African American counterparts' fatherhood role has been dramatically eroded.

As we reflect on the plight of fatherhood in our community some sobering facts reveal a crisis that cannot and should not be ignored. The U.S. Census Bureau reports that not having a father has serious economic consequences. There are nearly twenty million children living in a single parent household. With no father present these households account for 45% of our poverty rate. The U.S. Department of Justice found that 46% of unwed mothers would leave poverty if they married the fathers of their children. A recent examination by the National Fatherhood Initiative revealed that African American newborns today are tremendously disadvantaged. Today, half of all children and 80% of African American children can expect to spend at least part of their childhood living apart from their fathers.

These staggering figures portray an absence in our society that is detrimental to our nation's youth. We must understand the consequences that result from denying our children a proper upbringing. Although Fathers Day is a time to celebrate and rejoice with our loved ones, we cannot forget about the increasing number of our children that are being raised without a father. Children growing up without a father are more likely to have behavioral problems, and be incarcerated. Those children are less likely to attend college, become married, and form healthy relationships.

Unfortunately this trend has become prevalent in our communities. As a result this problem has become repetitive through generations at an alarming rate. We must work to raise awareness of the positive effects fatherhood has on a child's life. We must also find ways to stem the decline of meaningful relationships between a father and his child in our society.

I recently read a commentary on The Importance of a Loving Father by Dr. Walter E. Barker, a Florida licensed Marriage and Family Therapist. "Fathers are very important to their sons' and daughters' development. A mother gives the child unconditional love and acceptance and the father's love is more conditional on the child's finding success and accomplishment out in the larger world. He wants his children to find what makes them happy and then take that gift and talent to make a contribution to the larger society. Fathers want their children to have a strong work ethic and to be willing to assert themselves in the world."

By supporting the family structure, better education and job training we can begin to reverse the diminished role of fathers in our country. We must all work to help raise awareness on this pressing issue. The importance of fatherhood should not be overlooked by our society if we are to ensure a promising future for the children in America.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. DEAN HELLER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 19, 2009

Mr. HELLER. Madam Speaker, on rollcall No. 405, a motion to reconsider, I was unavoidably detained.

Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

HONORING WALTER DICKERSON ON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT

HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 19, 2009

Mr. BONNER. Madam Speaker, it is with both pride and pleasure that I rise today to honor the long and distinguished career of Walter Dickerson, on the occasion of his retirement as director of the Mobile County Emergency Management Agency.

Born in Claiborne, Maryland, Walt graduated from Robert Russa Moton High School in 1965. Following his graduation, he joined the United States Marine Corps and went on to serve for 21 years, working his way up through the enlisted, warrant officer, and commissioned officer. He earned a Bachelor's degree in business management from National University. He retired from the Marine Corps after 21 years of service as a decorated Vietnam veteran.

Following his time in the Marines, Walt served as the Integrated Logistics Support Manager for the AAI Corporation and was the department head of Integrated Logistics Support at Teledyne Power Systems. In 1996, he joined the Mobile County Emergency Management Agency, where he has served in a number of capacities including plans and operations officer, director of plans and operations, and executive director and area director of homeland security.

Walt's true gift to the Mobile community was manifested through his efforts during the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina. He received the Blacks in Government Port City Chapter Community Service Award for his contribution to the community following Hurricane Katrina, and he testified twice before Congress on Mobile's successful preparation and response to Hurricane Katrina. He was also recognized by the Alabama Senate, the Mobile County Commission, and the Mobile City Council for his performance during Hurricanes Ivan, Dennis, and Katrina.

Walt is a member of the Port City Chapter of Blacks in Government and the International Association of Emergency Managers. He is the past president of the Society of Logistics

Engineers as well as the Alabama Association of Emergency Managers. He is also greatly involved in the community serving as chairperson for the Tommie Agee Charity Foundation, vice president of the Gulf City Golfers Association, the Mobile Area Mardi Gras Association, Summit to Advance Values in Education, and American Legion Post 77. He is a 32nd Mason and a Shriner. Walt is also a charter member of Mobile's Monford Pointe Marine Association.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing a dedicated community leader and friend to many throughout Alabama. I am certain that his family, his many friends, and the countless people who have benefited from his hard work and dedication join me in praising his accomplishments and extending thanks for his service to the city of Mobile and the state of Alabama. On behalf of a grateful community, I wish Walt the best of luck in all of his future endeavors.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. TIMOTHY V. JOHNSON

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 19, 2009

Mr. JOHNSON of Illinois. Madam Speaker, on rollcall No. 380, I was present the entire eight hours. Due to a apparent machine malfunction, I was not recorded as voting. This amendment is both fiscally responsible and addresses another excess in spending that continues to drive upward our national debt, crippling current economic growth and saddling future generations with an unacceptable burden which will strangle taxpayers and reduce critical essential benefits to social services, especially seniors.

Had I been present, I would have voted "aye."

RECOGNIZING JUNETEENTH

HON. LAURA RICHARDSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 19, 2009

Ms. RICHARDSON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize June 19, 2009, or "Juneteenth," the oldest nationally celebrated commemoration of the ending of slavery in the United States.

The observance of June 19th as the African American Emancipation Day originated in Galveston, Texas in 1865, and is now celebrated around the United States. This day was chosen because it was on June 19th that the Union soldiers landed at Galveston, Texas with news that the war had ended and that the enslaved were now free—a full two and a half years after President Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation became official on January 1, 1863. The day was largely celebrated within African-American communities until the Civil Rights movement, when Reverend Ralph Abernathy called for people of all races, economic levels, and professions to come to Washington, D.C. to show support for the poor at the Poor People's March on Juneteenth in 1968. Many of the participants returned home and initiated Juneteenth celebrations in their own communities.

Every year, the celebration of Juneteenth grows in popularity across the United States. It is a day when we recognize and remember the evils of slavery and the suffering it caused. But it is also a day that celebrates African American freedom and emphasizes education and achievement with celebrations, guest speakers, picnics and family gatherings. Participants of all races, nationalities and religions celebrate and take the time to reflect on the past and rejoice in the present and future.

Madam Speaker, I would also like to note that in California's 37th Congressional District the city of Carson, Compton, and Long Beach, which I am proud to represent, celebrated Juneteenth in a very special way. In Long Beach, The MusicUntold Orchestra and Chorus performed the Bicentennial Symphony, by composer Roy Harris, which is considered the most powerful musical statement ever made on slavery in the United States. Ollie Woodson, formally of the Temptations, performed at the Carson celebration and the Compton celebration featured Howard Hewitt and the Whispers.

As we celebrate Juneteenth, Madam Speaker, I urge all Members to recognize this day and take a moment to honor the women and men that dedicated their lives to ending slavery.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. KEITH ELLISON

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 19, 2009

Mr. ELLISON. Madam Speaker, for the entire legislative day of June 18, 2009, I have an excused absence to attend my son's school graduation. If I were present, I would have voted "no" on Rollcall votes No. 356, 359, 360, 361, 362, 364, 366, 367, 368, 369, 370, 372, 373, 374, 375, 376, 377, 378, 379, 380, 381, 382, 383, 385, 386, 387, 389, 391, 393, 395, 397, 399, 401, 403, 405, and 407.

I would have voted "aye" on Rollcall votes No. 357, 358, 363, 365, 371, 384, 388, 390, 392, 394, 396, 398, 400, 402, 404, 406, and 408.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. TRENT FRANKS

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 19, 2009

Mr. FRANKS of Arizona. Madam Speaker, on Rollcall No. 356, I intended to vote "yes."

The motion would have struck \$97.4 million from the Federal Prison System in the Commerce, Justice, Science and Related Agencies Appropriations Act of 2010. It would have brought funding in line with the President's request.

I believe the level of spending in the underlying bill was irresponsible in light of the crushing level of debt that America is facing. This amendment was a small step in a broader effort that I supported to make this a fiscally responsible bill.

INTRODUCING A BILL TO DESIGNATE THE "DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. POST OFFICE" IN PORTLAND, OREGON

HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 19, 2009

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Madam Speaker, today I am introducing a bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located as 630 Northeast Killingsworth Avenue in Northeast Portland, Oregon as the "Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Post Office." This post office shall serve to remind us of the civil rights leader who inspired a nation and served as a catalyst for change. Our nation has come a long way since the days of the civil rights movement and Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s dream of equality and brotherhood between all people continues to inspire.

In fact, this bill is a result of a community effort led by local letter carriers Jamie Partridge and Isham Harris. In 2007, Mr. Partridge and Mr. Harris collected employee signatures supporting this naming, as well as letters of support from the Piedmont and Concordia Neighborhood Associations, and the Sabin Community Association.

I am pleased to carry their effort forward and am proud that Representatives WU, DEFAZIO, WALDEN, and SCHRADER, the full Oregon Congressional delegation, have joined as original cosponsors in the House. Senators WYDEN and MERKLEY will soon introduce companion legislation in the Senate.

Naming one of our community's postal facilities after one of the century's most inspiring leaders is a personal reminder of Dr. King's achievements and the work that remains to be done. I look forward to working with my colleagues to ensure the swift passage and enactment of this bill.

CONGRATULATING THE ANDERSON LADY ORANGE

HON. JEAN SCHMIDT

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 19, 2009

Mrs. SCHMIDT. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Anderson Lady Orange on winning Ohio's 2009 Division III Women's Lacrosse State Championship, for the second year in a row. In the past three seasons, the Lady Orange have a record of 44 and 11, including 15 wins this season.

Led by Head Coach Paul Eldridge, Anderson defended their state title by defeating Bexley 9-8. Scoring in the championship game for the Lady Orange was Kate Shingleton—five goals, Shelby Smith—two goals, Caroline Eldridge, and Chelsea Ritter. Goalie Ashlee Heckard finished the game with five saves. Senior Kate Shingleton was named the tournament's Most Outstanding Offensive Player.

Madam Speaker, please join me in congratulating these talented young women for their historic lacrosse season and wish them the best of luck in all their future endeavors. Go Lady Orange!

RECOGNIZING THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF PERKINS BRAILLE AND TALKING BOOK LIBRARY

HON. EDWARD J. MARKEY

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 19, 2009

Mr. MARKEY of Massachusetts. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Perkins School for the Blind on being recognized by the Library of Congress as the 2008 Talking Book Library of the Year.

The Perkins School for the Blind, the first school for the blind in the United States, began with its founding over 175 years ago. Within a few short years, Perkins became known for its effective instructional techniques, including teaching Laura Bridgman, the first known deaf blind person to be educated. Perkins School is also responsible for nurturing the talents of Helen Keller, who came to Perkins on her way to breaking down barriers and perceptions about what people who are blind or deaf blind can accomplish.

Since first joining Congress, I've held the deep belief that there is no reason why anyone living in our country should not have equal opportunity to the literary genius of our nation and world. This belief, has led me to support efforts like that of the Perkins School, which always innovate with accessibility in mind.

The Perkins Braille and Talking Book Library, for over 174 years, has distinguished itself as a leader in providing innovative literary accessibility to those amongst us with visual and other disabilities.

In 2008, the Perkins School Braille and Talking Book Library circulated over 442,935 book and magazines, served 22,814 borrowers, and loaned over 5,000 play machines and accessories. The great staff of the Perkins School researched 13,164 title inquiries and found over 89 percent of those titles in an accessible format.

The Perkins School for the Blind should be commended for their tremendous effort to educate not only those with visual and other disabilities, but all of us. Because of the work of institutions like the Perkins School for the Blind, millions of individuals actively learned that with training and opportunity, those with visual and/or other disabilities can attain self-sufficiency and independently thrive throughout their lives.

Madam Speaker, I'm proud to congratulate the Perkins School for the Blind.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. ROB BISHOP

OF UTAH

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 19, 2009

Mr. BISHOP of Utah. Madam Speaker, consistent with the Republican Leadership's policy on earmarks, I am submitting the following earmark disclosure information regarding project funding I had requested and which was included within the legislation H.R. 2647, as reported. To the best of my knowledge, none of these six requests: (1) are directed to an entity or program that will be named after a sitting Member of Congress; (2) are not in-

tended to be used by an entity to secure funds for other entities unless the use of funding is consistent with the specified purpose of the earmark; and (3) meet or exceed all statutory requirements for matching funds where applicable. I further certify that neither my spouse, nor I, have any personal financial interests in these requests.

Project Title: Optimizing Natural Language Processing of Open Source Intelligence (OSINT)

Amount: \$1.5 million

Requesting Member: ROB BISHOP (UT)

Bill Number: H.R. 2647

Account: Research and Development, Army Address of Requesting Entity: Attensity, Inc., 90 South 400 West, Suite 600, Salt Lake City, Utah 84101

Matching Funds: None

Detailed Spending Plan: Not applicable

Description and Justification of Funding: Project, in conjunction with the University of New York at Buffalo, would fund research and development of an "all-source" fusion tool for collecting open-source data from the web, blogs, social networking sites, and RSS feeds, to provide more effective defense intelligence analysis and improving military decision making in asymmetric warfare situations

Project Title: PCC Apron NW End Taxiway

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Amount: \$5.1 million

Requesting Member: ROB BISHOP (UT)

Bill Number: H.R. 2647

Account: Military Construction, Air Force Address of Requesting Entity: Hill AFB, Utah. 75th Air Base Wing, Hill AFB, Utah 84056

Matching Funds: None

Detailed Spending Plan: Not applicable

Description and Justification of Funding: Project would correct runway deficiencies and allow for more aircraft to be prepared for flight at the same time that airstrip landing and take-off operations are being conducted, increasing military readiness, safety, and reducing jet fuel costs

Project Title: Propellant Conversion to Fertilizer Program for Tooele Army Depot

Amount: \$3.4 million

Requesting Member: ROB BISHOP (UT)

Bill Number: H.R. 2647

Account: Research and Development, Army Address of Requesting Entity: Archtech, Inc., 14100 Park Meadow Drive, Chantilly, VA 20151

Matching Funds: None

Detailed Spending Plan: Not applicable

Description and Justification of Funding: Project would fund new conventional ammunition demilitarization method at Tooele Army Depot, Utah, as an environmentally-responsible alternative to the Army's current "open-pit, open-burn" method of disposal

Project Title: Repair Technology Insertion Program (RepTIP)

Amount: \$5.2 million

Requesting Member: ROB BISHOP (UT)

Bill Number: H.R. 2647

Account: Research and Development, Air Force

Address of Requesting Entity: General Atomics Inc., 16969 Mesamint Street, San Diego, CA 92127

Matching Funds: None

Detailed Spending Plan: Not applicable

Description and Justification of Funding: Project would fund the development of repair

and overhaul technologies that increase productivity and reduce the cost of sustaining weapons systems in military depots, and incorporates Level II roller bearing refurbishment, heat tolerant tube fabrication, inside-diameter protective coatings to metals, heat-treat, and foundry process improvements for the 309th Maintenance Wing, Ogden Air Logistics Center, at Hill AFB, Utah

Project Title: Small Responsive Spacecraft at Low-Cost (SRSL)

Amount: \$4.5 million

Requesting Member: ROB BISHOP (UT)

Bill Number: H.R. 2647

Account: Research and Development, Air Force

Address of Requesting Entity: Space Dynamics Laboratory, Utah State University, 1695 North Research Park Way, North Logan, Utah 84341

Matching Funds: None

Detailed Spending Plan: Not applicable

Description and Justification of Funding: Project would continue previous-years' efforts in conjunction with the Air Force Research Labs to develop and demonstrate technologies for new, low-cost space systems with military utility. Current space-based reconnaissance assets are cost-prohibitive and too massive to be used in a quick-reaction tactical environment. This effort could lead to providing local field commanders a dedicated space asset for tactical actionable intelligence under the Operationally Responsive Space (ORS) construct

Project Title: UAV Sensor and Maintenance Development Center

Amount: \$5.5 million

Requesting Member: ROB BISHOP (UT)

Bill Number: H.R. 2647

Account: Research and Development, Air Force

Address of Requesting Entity: Space Dynamics Laboratory, Utah State University, 1695 North Research Park Way, North Logan, Utah 84341

Matching Funds: None

Detailed Spending Plan: Not applicable

Description and Justification of Funding: Project would provide technical assistance to the Ogden Air Logistics Center at Hill AFB, Utah, in the areas of developing, calibrating, and integrating sensors and other payloads onto Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAVs), which will facilitate future development of UAV capability within the military

JUNETEENTH

HON. TRENT FRANKS

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 19, 2009

Mr. FRANKS of Arizona. Madam Speaker, today, June 19th, marks the anniversary of what has become known as Juneteenth," the name given to emancipation day by African-Americans in Texas. On that day in 1865, Union Major-General Gordon Granger read General Orders, No. 3 to the people of Galveston. It stated:

"The people of Texas are informed that, in accordance with a proclamation from the Executive of the United States, all slaves are free. This involves an absolute equality of personal rights and rights of property . . .

It was an event in the early days of the 19th century, and especially in the darkest of hours

during the Civil War that turned brother against brother and cost nearly 600,000 American lives, that few would ever have believed was possible, Madam Speaker.

And yet here in America, where the words "all men are created equal" were formally recognized by government for the first time in history as a self-evident truth, we recognized that reducing the status of a black man to less than human simply because he was black was something that was both abominable to God, and fundamentally incompatible with the principles of human freedom on which America was built.

Abraham Lincoln realized that truth, Madam Speaker. He said this about our Founding Fathers:

"In their enlightened belief, nothing stamped with the Divine image and likeness was sent into the world to be trodden on, and degraded, and imbruted by its fellows. They grasped not only the whole race of man then living, but they reached forward and seized upon the farthest posterity. They erected a beacon to guide their children and their children's children, and the countless myriads who should inhabit the earth in other ages. Wise statesmen as they were, they knew the tendency of prosperity to breed tyrants, and so they established these great self-evident truths, that when in the distant future some man, some faction, some interest, should set up the doctrine that none but rich men, or none but white men, were entitled to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness, their posterity might look up again to the Declaration of Independence and take courage to renew the battle which their fathers began—so that truth, and justice, and mercy, and all the humane and Christian virtues might not be extinguished from the land; so that no man would hereafter dare to limit and circumscribe the great principles on which the temple of liberty was being built.

Mr. Lincoln helped us decide as a nation, Madam Speaker, that regardless of what it cost, we would choose to once again recognize Imago Dei, the image of God in man, and although millions never would have believed it possible, the United States chose to abolish slavery once and for all.

Yet today, Madam Speaker, few people who remember and celebrate Juneteenth realize that freedom has not yet fully come to all in the African-American community.

Today, Madam Speaker, in the land of the free and the home of the brave; in the same nation that threw off the yoke of slavery and overturned the abomination of a Supreme Court decision that said the black man was not a person and not worthy of protection under the law; today in America, Madam Speaker, the lives of one in two black unborn children are lost before they ever see the light of day for the first time.

And though some, captive to an invincible blindness, would deny this reality, Madam Speaker, we are all witness to what has been the deadliest form of discrimination in our country's history: the systematic elimination of millions. Today, fully one-half of all black Americans conceived in this country are killed before they are born, primarily at government-funded abortion clinics placed in our inner cities.

Every day, Madam Speaker, almost 1,500 unborn black children are aborted. Black babies are aborted at between four and five times the rate of that of white babies. The daily killing of 50 percent of unborn black

American children has cost the lives of close to 14 million black children. That equates to no less than a genocide against black America. It is a tragedy that beggars my ability to describe.

This Juneteenth, as we recognize a great victory for human freedom and equality, Madam Speaker, we must also recognize that the most fundamental freedom and basic civil right of all—the right to live—especially for black Americans, has never been more threatened or under attack.

But Juneteenth should also give us hope, because it shows us that nations caught up in something as tragic as slavery can rise to victory and change history.

Madam Speaker, I have a painting in my office depicting this floor and this chamber on Juneteenth, celebrating the end of slavery in America. It is a scene of pandemonium and celebration, illustrating the feeling of that day among men and women who realize something truly historic and great had happened—that an entire race of human beings had been recognized for the children of God that they were, and that America had been used to end the 7,000-year reign of the acceptance of human slavery in the world.

That picture gives me great hope, Madam Speaker, because it shows that even something as evil and entrenched in human society as was human slavery can be changed.

And Madam Speaker, because I have the privilege of living in America, I am just idealistic enough to believe that we can also rise to the occasion in this country and change history again, and end this tragic genocide called abortion on demand.

And you know the irony, Madam Speaker, is that it may be African-Americans, who were once enslaved in this country and who are now recognizing that abortion on demand is killing more of their little brothers and sisters than did slavery, who will be the ones to help lead America to place this modern day genocide behind us forever.

By the grace of God may it be so, Madam Speaker.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 19, 2009

Mr. BONNER. Madam Speaker, I submit the following:

Requesting Member: Congressman JO BONNER

Bill Number: H.R. 2892

Account: State and Local Programs/Emergency Operations Center

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Mobile County Commission

Address of Requesting Entity: 205 Government Street, Mobile, AL 36644

Description of Request: Provide \$800,000 for the initial federal share of construction of a new Emergency Operations Center in Mobile, Alabama. Mobile County is home to one of the country's ten largest ports with a new container terminal and a number of chemical manufacturing facilities. As a gulf-front county, Mobile County faces an annual risk of severe hurricanes and flood related emergencies. A new Emergency Operations Center is necessary for the all-hazards approach Mobile

County Emergency Management Agency must take in response to these diverse natural and potentially terrorist threats. Mobile County's existing Emergency Operations Center no longer has the necessary space or the appropriate equipment to meet the County's needs, given the leadership role the County has taken in regional planning and preparation for man-made and natural disasters. The County will use \$200,000 of the requested funds for inter-operable communications equipment; \$125,000 for computer hardware/software/infrastructure; \$150,000 for Incident Management Software; \$150,000 for Information Management Display System; and \$175,000 for Engineering Design. This project specifically furthers National Homeland Security strategic goals by facilitating an integrated federal, state and local response to disasters of all types. The City of Mobile and the County of Mobile will provide a 25% local cost-share.

HONORING 11TH DISTRICT BASEBALL STANDOUTS

HON. PHIL GINGREY

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 19, 2009

Mr. GINGREY of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize two exceptional high school athletes from Georgia's 11th Congressional District who have distinguished themselves among our nation's top amateur baseball players. With the third pick in the 2009 Major League Baseball Amateur Draft, the San Diego Padres selected Cartersville High School outfielder Donovan Tate, and three picks later, another Northwest Georgian, East Paulding County High School pitcher Zack Wheeler was selected by the San Francisco Giants with the sixth pick overall.

Donovan Tate made quite a name for himself in high school while leading his Purple Hurricanes to back to back state baseball championships. In his senior season, he batted .474 with nine home runs and 42 RBIs.

Zack Wheeler was also dominant in high school, striking out 149 batters in 76 innings this season and finishing with an unblemished 9-0 record and a 0.54 ERA—including a no-hitter in the state playoffs. Zack's fastball hovers in the high 90s so it is no surprise that the Giants used their first pick to bring this young right hander to their organization.

As an avid baseball fan, it is truly an honor to have two of the top six draft picks for 2009 call Georgia's 11th Congressional District home. I ask that my colleagues join me in recognizing the talent and hard work of these two athletes and wishing them the best of luck as they start this new chapter of their lives.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. STEVE BUYER

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 19, 2009

Mr. BUYER. Madam Speaker, pursuant to the House Republican standards on earmarks, I am submitting the following information regarding earmarks I received as part of H.R. 2647, the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2010.

Requesting Member: Congressman Steve Buyer

Bill Number: H.R. 2647

Account: DoD RDT&E, Technology Transfer
Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Technology Service Corporation

Address of Requesting Entity: 116 West Sixth St., Suite 200, Bloomington, IN 47404

Description of Request: Provide an earmark of \$3,000,000 to continue support of the National Radio Frequency Research, Development, and Technology Transfer Center, which provides an efficient method of transitioning new technologies into DoD programs of record to provide for performance improvements at lower cost for the war fighter.

AWARDING A CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDAL TO THE WOMEN AIRFORCE SERVICE PILOTS

SPEECH OF

HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 16, 2009

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and pay tribute to a group of truly exceptional women who live in my Congressional District and whose service to our country was honored today by the passage of a bill awarding the Congressional Gold Medal to the Women Air Service Pilots of World War II.

Inspired by the attacks on Pearl Harbor, Margot DeMoss (Riverside, CA), Mary Ann Roberta Dreher (San Clemente, CA) and Jane Fohl (San Clemente, CA) answered our Nation's call to duty by joining the Women Air Service Pilots of World War II, also known as the WASP.

Created on August 5, 1943, the WASP was charged with the critical task of delivering battle-ready planes from the factory line to military bases around the world. After just 16 months, the WASP had established itself as a premier ferrying squadron. Of the more than 25,000 women that applied for training, only 1,879 were accepted to participate in the rigorous program that would eventually produce 1,074 outstanding female pilots.

The WASP founder, world famous aviator Jacqueline Cochran, challenged the status quo by asking for permission to commission WASP directly as Service Pilots, a procedure used routinely with male pilots but prohibited for women. She lobbied passionately, but eventually lost her battle both with the Comptroller General of the Army Air Force and in the halls of Congress, leading to the WASPs disbanding in 1944.

I believe that these women pioneers deserve to be acknowledged not just for their remarkable bravery and sacrifice, but for reminding us all that an uncompromising commitment to America—to its values, ideals and traditions—is a unifying force. I am a proud co-sponsor of H.R. 2014, Representative ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN's bill, awarding the Congressional Gold Medal to the Women Air Service Pilots of World War II, and I am pleased that the women of WASP will finally receive the recognition they so rightfully deserve.

HONORING TERRY BRADLEY

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 19, 2009

Mr. RADANOVICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Terry Bradley upon his retirement as the Superintendent of the Clovis Unified School District. Superintendent Bradley will be honored by the Clovis Unified School District at a reception to be held Thursday, June 18, 2009.

Superintendent Bradley has been in education for forty-three years. Prior to moving to the Central Valley, he was a teacher and school business administrator for ten years. In 1986, while working for Clovis Unified School District as the chief business official, he received his doctorate degree in school management from the University of LeVerne. Dr. Bradley served as the chief business official for twenty-six years, and then was appointed to the Superintendent position on July 1, 2002.

Dr. Bradley has been a visiting professor at the University of Southern California, the University of San Francisco and California State University, Fresno. He has held leadership positions in several professional organizations, including the Association of School Business Officials, the California Association of School Business Officials, and the Association of California School Administrators (past chairman). He is a past chairman, and currently serves, on the Board of Directors for both Californians for Schools and the Coalition of Adequate Student Housing. Dr. Bradley is also active in the California Association of School Business Officials' mentoring program, where he helps to develop leadership and professional skills in future school business officers.

Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend and congratulate Terry Bradley upon his retirement from Clovis Unified School District. I invite my colleagues to join me in wishing Superintendent Bradley many years of continued success.

IN HONOR OF FRANKLIN D.
MELLOTT, EXECUTIVE OFFICER,
NAVAL AIR STATION, LEMOORE

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 19, 2009

Mr. COSTA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Commander Franklin D. Mellott, United States Navy, upon his retirement after twenty three years of service to the United States Navy and to the Nation.

Commander Mellott has served the United States Navy with distinguished service over his exceptional career. His devotion to the Navy and the Nation is inspiring.

My initial experience with Commander Mellott began when his service commenced in 2006 as Executive Officer for Naval Air Station Lemoore, which is located in my 20th Congressional District in Kings County, California. I met with Commander Mellott at the base to introduce myself and my staff and from that day on, a great working relationship was formed. Commander Mellott served as Committee Chair for my 20th District Academy

Committee. During this time, he devoted countless extra hours to coordinating the committee and assisting my office with academy nominations. Whether we were calling Frank to ask a question or to follow up on issues my office was working on with the base, Frank was always professional, courteous and helpful. His volunteer service to my office will always be remembered.

It is so fitting that the President of the United States has presented Commander Franklin Mellott with the Meritorious Service Medal for his outstanding leadership as Executive Officer of NASL. I ask that excerpts from the Citation be printed.

"For outstanding meritorious service as Executive Officer, Naval Air Station Lemoore, California, from June 2006 to June 2009. Commander Mellott displayed extraordinary leadership and exceptional insight in supporting half the fleet's tactical air combat power at the Navy's largest and busiest master jet base. Brilliantly assisting the Commanding Officer in every facet of business and operations, he provided superior support to Commander Strike Fighter Wing Pacific, four operational air wings, 16 squadrons, and a work force of more than 10,000 military and civilian personnel through mishap-free control of more than 700,000 operational and training sorties. Under his leadership, the installation opened more than 2,500 cubic miles of new training airspace to the fleet, the largest new training airspace the Navy has developed in more than 25 years, completed several large military construction projects valued at over \$150 million, provided support to 16 helicopters fighting wild fires in Northern California, and provided award winning services to a community of more than 25,000 constituents. Additionally, he helped orchestrate and align Navy efforts to preserve the strategic value of Naval Air Station Lemoore in the future with an exceptionally diplomatic strategy to influence current land-use decisions by local governments and to develop productive forums for perpetual engagement. Singularly responsible for good order and discipline aboard the installation, he balanced justice with mercy in the effective handling of countless delicate and emergent law enforcement and operational matters during his tour. His actions culminate a 23 year career of distinguished service to the Navy and the Nation. Commander Mellott's decisive, principled, and visionary leadership and inspiring devotion to duty reflected great credit upon him and upheld the highest traditions of the United States Naval Service."

Commander Mellott has always been available to myself and my staff and we are sad to say goodbye. He is a man of outstanding character and we will remain grateful for his unwavering dedication and exceptional insight.

On behalf of the United States Congress, I wish to express my sincere thanks for his hard work, selfless service, and dedication to the United States Navy.

I want to personally wish Frank continued success and my best wishes go out to his wife, Sheri, and his children; sons, Alex and Nathaniel and daughter, Francesca as they embark on their new endeavors in Pennsylvania.

COMMERCE, JUSTICE, SCIENCE,
AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2010

SPEECH OF

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 16, 2009

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2847) making appropriations for the Departments of Commerce and Justice, and Science, and Related Agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2010, and for other purposes:

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Chair, I rise in support of H.R. 2847, the Commerce-Justice-Science Appropriations bill. The bill provides \$18.2 billion, \$421 million above FY 2009 levels, for NASA, an agency which is critical to our nation's economy, competitiveness, and environment. It provides protection for the most important reason for NASA's historic and ongoing success: its workers. This bill extends a ban on involuntary layoffs until at least September, 2010, a provision for which I organized support among several Members of the Ohio delegation.

In Ohio, NASA Glenn is an economic anchor and a source of well paying jobs. In FY 07, the year for which we have the most recent data, the economic output of NASA Glenn alone in Ohio was \$1.2 billion per year. It was responsible for over 8,000 jobs, and household earnings amounted to \$402 million. NASA Glenn's expertise in renewable energy and energy efficiency technologies will be critical to Ohio's new green economy.

While the bill provided significantly less than the needed funding for space exploration, the administration is expected to submit a supplemental request for NASA exploration funds when president Obama's blue ribbon panel designed to review U.S. human space flight activities is complete.

The bill also contains a 13 percent increase in funding for the Legal Services Corporation. The American legal system is increasingly inaccessible for low and moderate income citizens. The costs and specialized knowledge associated with pursuing justice have left thousands on the outside looking in, unable to obtain even an opportunity to tell their side of the story. LSC provides funding to organizations that provide free and low-cost legal assistance to individuals and families who otherwise would not have the resources to pursue justice. I also commend the Committee for including language that begins to undo some of the restrictions that have been placed on LSC grantees in previous appropriations bills. This will allow LSC grantees to serve more clients and maximize their resources.

I am proud, therefore, to support this bill.

TRIBUTE TO CAPTAIN ROBERT A.
SHAFAER

HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 19, 2009

Mr. CALVERT. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and pay tribute to an individual from my Congressional District who has dedicated his life to defending the people of this country and preserving the basic freedoms and liberties that we hold dear. Commanding Officer Captain Robert A. Shafer of the United States Navy is a true American hero and today I thank him for his 28 years of naval service. On Monday, January 22, 2009, Captain Shafer will be honored at his retirement and Change of Command Ceremony at the Naval Surface Warfare Center, Corona, California.

Captain Robert A. Shafer graduated from the United States Naval Academy in 1981. He was commissioned an Ensign and immediately began training as a Surface Warfare Officer in Coronado, California.

During his career, Captain Shafer's assignments included Combat Information Center Officer aboard the USS *O'Brien* (DD-975); Weapons Officer and Combat Systems Officer aboard the USS *Antietam* (CG-54); Executive Officer of the USS *San Jacinto* (CG-56); and Commanding Officer of the USS *Vincennes* (CG-49). Captain Shafer also completed seven deployments, primarily to the Western Pacific, Indian Ocean and the Arabian Gulf during this time.

Following his Division Officer tour, Captain Shafer attended the Naval Postgraduate School in Monterey, California. There he earned a Master of Science Degree in Mechanical Engineering and completed the requirements for a Weapons Systems Engineering subspecialty. Additionally, he is a graduate of the U.S. Army Command and General Staff College as well as the Naval War College.

Subsequent shore tours include duty as Executive Assistant and Instructor in the Department of Weapons and Systems Engineering, United States Naval Academy; and as Fleet Liaison for the Technical Director, Aegis Combat Systems.

His previous shore tour included assignment as Chief Staff Officer for PEO Theater Surface Combatants, Aegis Combat Systems Engineer, Director, Battle Force Systems Engineering, and duties as Military Deputy for the Director of Integrated Combat Systems for PEO Integrated Warfare Systems.

Captain Shafer's awards include the Meritorious Service medal with 3 Gold Stars, the Navy Commendation Medal with Gold Star, and the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal with 3 Gold Stars, as well as various unit and campaign ribbons which include five Battle "E" awards.

Captain Shafer will retire from naval service with more than just his experience, decorated career and remarkable accomplishments; his enduring legacy will serve as a shining example and constant reminder of what it means to be an American.